



Merry Christmas from The City of Marion, South Carolina Swamp Fox Scene



A FREE monthly news magazine for the citizens and visitors of the Swamp For City

Volume 4, Issue 7

December 2013

City of Marion pays tribute to our Veterans



The City of Marion honored all of its veterans and families on November 8, 2013 at the Memorial Triangle on S. Main Street in Marion. Special tribute was paid to the families of Fallen Heroes, Staff Sgt. David Bullard and Technician 5th Class O'Neal Rush. This was such a special and tearful event. Staff Sgt. David was killed in action in Afghanistan in October 2007 at age 28. Mayor Davis presented his son with a certificate of appreciation from Representative Wayne George and Senator Tim Scott. A representative from the Rush family, Rush's aunt Annie Mae Bethea, was also presented with a certificate of appreciation from Representative

Wayne George and Senator Tim Scott.

Mayor Davis recognized hundreds of veterans and their families along with Representative Wayne George and Ms. Delores DaGosta from Senator Tim Scott's office and City Administrator Alan Ammons. Veterans were also given a food package donated by Rev. Larry Williams. The Food Bank is sponsored by the Tabernacle of God Ministries Mobile Food Bank.

The program was the idea of Mayor Bobby L. Davis, retired U.S. Army veteran. He said that he was extremely happy with the turnout. He wanted to recognize the veterans because he not only knows what they went through, but also how they are sometimes treated upon their return from action.

Mayor Davis said he wanted to show the veterans that the City of Marion has love for our veterans and we appreciate them.

CITY TO TAKE DONATIONS FOR HOLIDAY FOOD BOXES

For the fourth year, Marion City Council members and Mayor Bobby L. Davis will be seeking donations to fund its Christmas "Food for Friends" program.

The program has been wildly successful, thanks to the generous gifts of the city's residents and businesses. During last year's program the people of Marion donated to help families enjoy all the trimmings and fixings for a Christmas meal. Each pre-packed box costs \$35. Donations are welcome in any amount and will be put with other donations to help make purchases.

City firefighters and police officers will distribute the boxes throughout the city the week of December 9th. Donations can be made at City Hall on Main Street or at the Fire Department on Bond Street. For more information, call the Administrator at 423-5961.



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to our employees and citizens from the City of Marion, City Council and City Administrator Alan Ammons.

Administrator Alan Ammons.

Greeting From the Mayor

Well, it is hard to believe that it is already time to say Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to our city employees who have been working faithfully to decorate our city in hopes it will enhance your holiday experience! Our employees take so much pride in their efforts and we hope all of you enjoy it. There is but one reason we celebrate the season and that is Jesus. So as we celebrate and enjoy the holiday season, please don't lose sight of Him.

During these past months as Mayor we have had some accomplishments, most recently the recognition of our veterans. So as our community grows together through **UNITY** we will **SUCCEED** and accomplish great things.

As we celebrate this holiday season, I hope we will continue to spend this time with family and friends and use this time to reflect and count our blessings. The greatest gift we could exchange this season is to serve one another. May I ask you all to remember your neighbors at this time of year? Especially, remember the elderly, the less fortunate and those who live alone.

On behalf of the City of Marion, I wish every single citizen a safe, healthy and happy Christmas. It is an honor to serve the City of Marion and I am again thankful this Christmas for the trust you place in me. From my family to you and your family, Merry Christmas!

Mayor Bobby L. Davis

Get ready to PARADE!

The Marion Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce plans for the upcoming Marion Christmas Parade. We invite you to join us on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 4:30 p.m. in downtown Marion.

This is the eighth year the Chamber will play host to this event and we are looking forward to helping provide the parade for our community. However, we need help to make this event a success. We are seeking participation from the community.

We invite civic groups, churches, and schools to be a part of the parade. We also welcome business logo trucks and cars as entries. There is an entry fee of \$10 per unit. Exceptions are Commercial float renters, elected officials, Chamber members, School bands, queens, and marching units, Fire Departments, Municipal rescue units, or invited guests of the Parade Sponsor.

The entry fee must accompany the application and an application must be on file for each unit in the parade by Thursday, December 5 at noon. Each unit **MUST** have identification of the group, business or organization they represent on their unit.

For an application or if you have questions about this year's parade, call 423-3561 or come by the Chamber office in the Depot at 209 East Bobby Gerald Parkway.

We look forward to working with the community on this fun filled event.

Judy Johnson
Marion Chamber of Commerce
423-3561

Marion Chamber ribbon-cutting Ceremony

In conjunction with Olde Towne Marion's monthly Rise and Shine the Marion Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Martinis and More on Wednesday November 6th. Located at 317 N. Main Street, the business is owned by Audery Bahan. Marion Chamber Vice President, Laura White and City Administrator Alan Ammons along with other Chamber Board members and Olde Towne members welcomed Martinis and More to our business community. Hours for the restaurant are Monday through Saturday 4:00 p.m. until with the exception of Tuesdays they are closed. For reservations or for take out call 843-472-1130. Audery is also the owner of Audery's Embroidery and Monogramming located in the shop next door.



MARION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCES YARD OF THE MONTH



Mrs. Alexzeni Wright, 311 Watson Street, has been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for November 2013. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. Mrs. Wright will be receiving a gift certificate from Tru Green Nursery in recognition of this honor.

Christmas Prelude

Olde Towne Marion is presenting a Christmas Prelude on the empty lots in the Historic District Saturday December 7, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.. Over 25 vendors that sell handmade crafts, farmers that sell fresh produce, landscapers that sell specialty plants and one of a kind items and baked goods straight from the ovens will be there to offer their goods for Christmas shoppers. BBQ, Funnel Cakes and Burgers and Fries will be offered up for your taste buds.

Santa will be there from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. for the children and there will be hay rides offered for everyone from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Employee of the Month



The City of Marion selected Eric Jones as the October 2013 Employee of the Month. Eric has been working in the Street Department since September 2011 and is licensed to drive commercial vehicles.

According to his supervisor, Street Superintendent Ronnie Sanders, Eric is "a hard worker, very dedicated and dependable, who takes great pride in his work." In addition to his current task of decorating the City for the Christmas season, Eric's duties also include beatification projects such as planting trees and preparing flower beds, mowing grass in the summer, and planting the community gardens in the spring and fall.

The Mayor and Council recognized Eric Jones for his positive attitude and significant contributions to the City of Marion during the November 12th City Council Meeting.

Happy Holidays!!

May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,
The gladness of Christmas give you hope,
The warmth of Christmas grant you love.

Remember
This December,
That love weighs more than gold!

Questions or to share information for the Swamp Fox Scene, please email vnichols@marionsc.gov

**Mark your Calendar
Look what's on the
way in Marion for
December.....**



Open each Saturday.....

Olde Towne Marion's Farmers Market & Market Place on Main Street, as well as the Community Farmer's Market. Olde Towne Marion's Farmers Market is open from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 3rd....5:30 p.m. Relay for Life of Marion County. Carolinas Hospital in Mullins. Contact Shelley 430-0690 or Debbie 260-4483.

Wednesday, December 4th...8:30 a.m. Rise and Shine at Hulons Jewelers, 325 N. Main Street.

Saturday, December 7th...10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. HMRA/ Olde Towne Marion is hosting "Christmas Food Court & Market Place, at the Main Street Farmer's Market. We are seeking vendors who make all those delicious goodies, and crafters who have all those interesting items that we all gotta have! You know who you are! Please call Al Blake at HMRA 423-9918 to claim your spot!

Saturday, December 7th...10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Pictures with Santa & Hay Rides at the Farmer's Market. Marion Christmas Parade: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 8th....5:30 p.m. The arrival of Santa Claus aboard the City of Marion Fire Truck. Pre-Christmas Tree Lighting Show: Courthouse 5:45 p.m.

Sunday, December 8th....6:00 p.m. Tree Lighting Celebration. **Fireworks at Withlacoochee Park Immediately following Ceremony.**

Tuesday, December 10th....6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Council Chambers.

December 12-16 & 19-22

2nd Annual production of "SCROOGE" will be presented as a gift to our community from Imagination Production Company, Inc., The City of Marion & The Emmalyn Davis School of Dance at C. D. Joyner Auditorium in Marion, SC. The performances will be **December 12-16 and 19-22**. The evening performances will begin at 7:00 p.m. The Sunday Matinees will begin at 2:30 p.m. The doors will open for seating 30 minutes prior to the performance. There is a \$5.00 suggested donation. For reservations, please call 843-423-5444.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, December 24, 25 & 26th.... Christmas Holidays observed. City offices will be closed.

All Star playoffs Update

Our Small Fry Football Team (10-U) competed in Florence on Saturday, November 16th against Pageland and will move on to the next round on Saturday, November 16th against Lake View.

The Small Fry Soccer team will host a district play off game at Green Street Park on Tuesday, November 19th. The District Playoffs for all of the soccer teams will be held in Sumter, SC on Saturday, November 23rd. More information about all these teams will be available online at Facebook.com or in the next issue of Swamp Fox Scene.

Congratulations to our All Stars!

Coats for Kids – Everybody is Somebody's Kids!

Cold weather is on the way and the City of Marion would like to lend a helping hand.

We are accepting donations of new or gently worn coats and jackets which will be given to those who may be in need something warm this winter. All sizes needed and accepted.

Please take any donations to the Marion Fire Department on East Bond Street or you may drop them off at City Hall at the office of City Clerk Pam Jones by Monday, December 2nd.

The holidays are upon us and the spirit of giving is alive and well in Marion! Let's help our neighbors! Your generosity is much appreciated!

Monetary donations will be accepted and used for the purchase of coats and jackets. **THANK YOU!**

Pam Jones, Coordinator
423-5961

Soccer All Stars

Small Fry

Kimmie Barnes
Scotty Collins
Mason Turbeville
Leah Johnson
Chad Campbell
Kendall Elliott
Tre' Johnson
Jonathan Reed

Darrien Bethea
JaCorey Gunner
Jenna Gibson
Jerick Kirton
Laney Cox
Collin Hufford
Austin Larrimore
Tamie White



Mites

Peyton Britt
Sally Brown
Megan Elliott
Anna Shelley
Garrett Fravor
Bryanna Reed
Amanda Wallace
Brandon Ingram

Julia Fulmer
Lacy Johnson
Gabriella Johnson
Frederick Gause
Payton Hufford
Macy Gibson
Grayson Rogers



Marion's All Stars

Midgets

Sarah Ray
Joshua Shelley
Brooks Skipper
Taylor Pike
Jamarious McKelvey
Alex Cooke
Lawson Capps

Aaron Fulmer
Ashley Garner
Grayson Basily
Kyle Piner
Anna Grace Johnson
Michael Tiesing
Luke Capps



Small Fry Football All Stars

Jalik Wilson
Kyhime Bethea
Rashawn Rogers
Levern Bell III
Zyiquirious Moody
Taneri Sanders
Amari Rollins
Tayshawn Bethea
Drelielk Person
Jaylen Davis
Reed Trussell
Greg Hopkins

McArthur Washington
Za'Kwan Lester
David Moore
Keonte Brantley
Aman Williams
Qua'like Crawford
Daveon Reed
O'marious Pearson
Rodney Philips
John Gamble
Ar'mani Godbold
Malachi Cusack



Small Fry Cheerleaders All Stars

Shyrae Cooper
Precious Brown
Janasia Evans
Paris Balkoon
Jakala Finklea

Lindsey Sawyer
Hayley Kenney
Armoni Malloy
Angelina Harrelson
Breshonda Legette



NEED HELP?

Call City Hall, 843-423-5961, unless otherwise noted, and one of the following will be able to help you.

Mayor Bobby L. Davis, (843) 423-5961, Ext. 21
Alan Ammons, City Administrator & Building Official, Ext. 19
Pam Jones, City Clerk, Ext. 10
Patricia Brown, City Treasurer, Ext. 18
Elizabeth Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 11
Elizabeth Ficik, Personnel & Purchasing Director, (843) 423-8614
Vickie J. Nichols, Grant Writing & Publicist, Ext. 22
Russ Smith, Recreation Director, (843) 423-5410
Jim Gray, Police Chief, (843) 423-8616
Trey Cooper, Fire Chief, (843) 423-8602
Heather Evans, Municipal Court Clerk, (843) 423-8616
Almeta Mullins, Secretary, (843) 423-8616

The Swamp Fox Scene is the City of Marion's Free monthly newspaper for citizens and visitor's of the Swamp Fox City, Marion, South Carolina. Printed by Herald Multi-forms in Dillon, city employees produce and distribute the newspaper.

The Marion Chamber and HMRA help pay printing costs.

A PDF version is available by e-mail or online. For more information about the newspaper, call Mayor Bobby L. Davis or City Administrator Alan Ammons at (843) 423-5961.

May Peace be your gift at Christmas and your blessing all year through!

Marion Recreation Department

Marion's 24th Annual Holiday Celebrations Line - Up

Don't Forget to SAVE the dates & come enjoy the festivities.

Saturday, December 7th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm : Pictures with Santa & Hay ride at the Farmer's Market on Main Street

4:30 pm - Christmas Parade

Sunday, December 8th

5:30 pm : Arrival of Santa Claus on the City of Marion Fire Truck

5:45 pm : Pre - Christmas Tree Lighting Show at the Courthouse Square

6:00 pm : Tree Lighting Celebration

Fireworks to follow immediately after Tree Lighting at Withlacoochee Park.



The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree, the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.

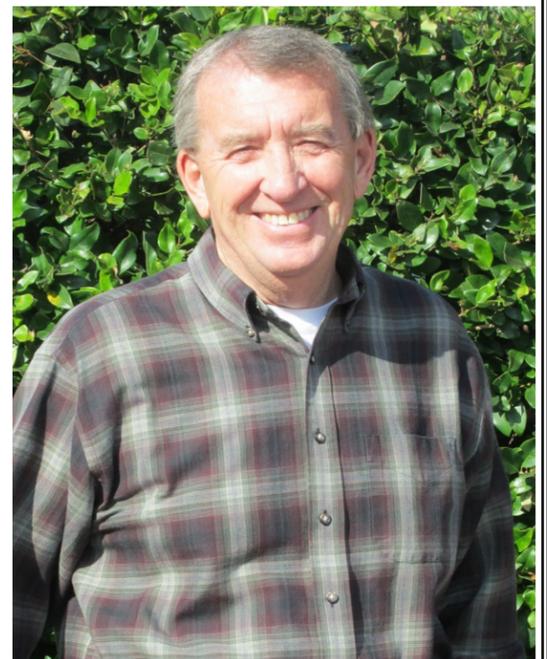
May Peace be your gift at Christmas and your blessing all year through!

Merry Christmas Marion City Hall Office Staff

Christmas is a necessity. There has to be at least one day of the year to remind us that we're here for something else besides ourselves!

Happy Holidays
Mr. Ronnie & Mr. Winky

HMRA Executive Director Says Goodbye!



Just notes to tell everyone thank you and good bye. I will be moving to Charlotte during the Christmas Holiday week. I have truly enjoyed my time in Marion, and can say I am a better person for having lived in this beautiful city. I hope that I was able to make a positive change to the Historic Downtown District and HMRA. I have seen Olde Towne Marion grow with the help of some great people that have served on the board of directors, and I am sure the downtown district will continue to move forward in the years to come. Thank you for all you has given me and my family.

Chuck Wiegert

CITY RENTALS AVAILABLE

Need a place to have your class reunion, family reunion, church social, or to have a party? We have the perfect location for you, whether an outdoor or indoor event from our picnic shelter or our recreation and fine arts center. Anyone interested in these locations for their events should call Russ Smith, 423-5410 for availability.